

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PHNOM 02920 300215 Z

72

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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P 300125 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0683

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 2920

EXDIS

STADIS //////////////////////////////////////

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BTRA, ETRD, XC, CB

SUBJECT: SEATAC VISIT

REF: PHNOM PENH 2916

1. OURSOUNDINGS OF MIN PUBLIC WORKS KHY TAING LIM AND MIN PLAN SUM CHHUM YESTERDAY EVENING INDICATE THE GKR IS NOW DEEPLY COMMITTED TO THE SEATAC VISIT, WITH SOME TEN INVESTMENT PROJECTS DEVELOPED FOR PRESENTATION AND THE MARSHAL HIMSELF ENGAGED IN SELECTING SOUVENIR GIFTS.

2. A CANCELLATION NOW WOULD DISAPPOINT THE GKR AND REDUCE FURTHER ITS CONFIDENCE IN ITSELF, JUST NOW A PRECIOUS COMMODITY. CANCELLATION AT THIS POINT WOULD ALSO BE AWKWARD TO JUSTIFY IN TERMS OF SECURITY IN PHNOM PENH WHICH HAS NOT WORSENERED DESPITE THE INTERDICTION OF THE MEKONG AND AN EVENTUAL SHORTAGE OF GASOLINE IF THE NEXT CONVOY IS LONG DELAYED.

3. WE CONCLUDE THE VISIT SHOULD GO FORWARD, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT SOME DRAMATIC DETERIORATION OF SECURITY IN THE CAPITAL COULD ENTAIL A LAST- MINUTE CHANGE OF PLANS.

SWANK

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS, STADIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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